

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 /079 W
-----126885 020254Z /65

O 020238Z MAY 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1095
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 01752

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, UNGA, SF, WA
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: SAG INQUIRY ABOUT SPEAKING AT
SPECIAL UNGA

REF: CAPE TOWN 870

1. PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF REFTEL, CONTACT GROUP HAD BRIEF
DISCUSSION OF SAG INQUIRY ABOUT SPEAKING AT SPECIAL UNGA
ON NAMIBIA. ALTHOUGH NO FORMAL CG DECISION WAS
TAKEN ON QUESTION, OTHER FOUR CLEARLY SHARED OUR VIEWS
AS SET FORTH STATE 110047 ON UNDESIRABILITY OF SAG SPEAK-
ING AT SPECIAL GA. WE UNDERSTAND AT LEAST SOME OF THEM
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PLANNED TO INSTRUCT THEIR CAPE TOWN EMBASSIES TO MAKE
APPROACH TO SAG ALONG LINES OF OURS.

2. AMB MCHENRY ALSO RAISED QUESTION WITH SOUTH AFRICAN
REP EKSTEEN MAY 1, NOTING PRESS REPORTS CONCERNING POS-
SIBLE BOTHA APPEARANCE. MCHENRY EMPHASIZED DELICATE
STAGE AT WHICH THINGS NOW STOOD AND IMPORTANCE OF SOUTH

AFRICA'S DOING OR SAYING NOTHING THAT WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THE SITUATION. EKSTEEN EXPRESSED AGREEMENT THAT BOTHA'S APPEARANCE AT GA NOW WOULD BE A MISTAKE AND INDICATED HE HAD SO REPORTED TO CAPE TOWN. MCHENRY PARRIED EKSTEEN'S QUESTION ABOUT POSSIBLE BOTHA STATEMENT TO SECURITY COUNCIL, NOTING HE WAS AT PRESENT CONCERNED ONLY WITH IMMEDIATE QUESTION OF GA APPEARANCE.

3. IN ANY FURTHER DISCUSSION OF QUESTION OF GA APPEARANCE WITH SAG, YOU MIGHT WISH TO NOTE, IN ADDITION TO FACTORS MENTIONED IN STATE 110047, THAT EFFORT TO PREVENT SOUTH AFRICA'S ADDRESSING THE SPECIAL SESSION WOULD VERY LIKELY BE MADE BY AFRICANS AND OTHER NON-ALIGNED. WHETHER OBJECTION WAS MADE AS CHALLENGE TO CREDENTIALS OR IN SOME OTHER FORM, VOTES WOULD NO DOUBT BE AVAILABLE IF AFRICANS WISHED TO BLOCK APPEARANCE. CONFRONTATION OF THIS SORT WOULD CERTAINLY BE UNHELPFUL AT THIS STAGE.

4. AS EMBASSY HAS NOTED, QUESTION AS RELATED TO SPECIAL GA IS PROBABLY ACADEMIC, SINCE IT APPEARS BOTHA COULD NOT ARRIVE IN TIME. SERIES OF PLENARY STATEMENTS ARE EXPECTED TO CONCLUDE TUESDAY, MAY 2 AND SESSION IS DUE TO CLOSE MAY 3. YOUNG

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